

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03363 081724Z

44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01 EUR-25 /166 W

----- 069136

R 081515Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6668

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 3363

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR NG XF

SUBJECT: NIGER AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: A. STATE 209574; B. NIAMEY 3330, C. NIAMEY 3116

1. I SPOKE WITH DIRECTOR OF CABINET, MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SALIFOU, ON GENERAL SUBJECT MIDDLE EAST NOV 5 AND BRIEFLY ON NOV 7. AFTER REVIEW USG ACTIONS PER REF A AND SUBSEQUENT EVENTS AT UN, I ASKED FOR HIS COMMENTS. HE SAID GON APPRECIATED USG'S EFFORTS OBTAIN CEASE-FIRE AND WAS FOLLOWING CURRENT ROUND OF TALKS IN TRYING WORK OUT SETTLEMENT. HE MENTIONED PRESIDENT DIORI'S TRIP TO NORTH AFRICA AND SAID GON WOULD HAVE CLEARER PICTURE OF SITUATION UPON HIS RETURN (REF B).

2. IN EFFORT TO ELICIT MORE ABOUT GON ATTITUDES I ASKED WHY THERE WERE NO LOCAL EDITORIALS OR RADIO COMMENTARY ON WAR(REF C). HE REPLIED PRESIDENT DIORI HAD ORDERED BAN STATING THAT POSITION OF GON IN SUPPORT OF ARAB CAUSE WAS ALREADY WELL KNOWN AND NEEDED NO AMPLIFICATION. SALIFOU GAVE OPINION THAT PRESIDENT PROBABLY CONCLUDED THAT NOTHING COULD BE GAINED BY EDITORIALIZING FURTHER ON SUBJECT THAT WAS ALREADY EVOKING STRONG FEELINGS AMONG NIGERIENS. HE ALSO HEMED ME THAT EDITORIALS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARE RARE UNLESS NIGER IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED.

3. I TOLD HIM I WOULD LIKE TO ASK A DELICATE QUESTION, NAMELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NIAMEY 03363 081724Z

WHETHER HE COULD SPEAK WITHOUT SPECIFICS OF ANY ARAB DEMARCHES

TO THE GON ABOUT US ROLE DURING FIGHTING. HE SAID HE WOULD ANSWER MY QUESTION INDIRECTLY BY STATING THAT IT WAS TON'S POLICY OF LONG-STANDING NOT TO TOLERATE ATTACKS OR CRITICISM BY ONE COUNTRY AGAINST ANOTHER IN NIGER AS LONG AS GON MAINTAINED FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH BOTH. HE THEN SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY OFFICIAL DEMARCHES CRITICIZING THE US, BUT THAT THERE WERE CRITICAL REMARKS MADE PRIVATELY ABOUT THE US RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL. HE CONTINUED HOWEVER BY SAYING HE WANTED TO TELL ME THAT SOME LOCAL ARAB DIPLOMATS HAD ALSO EXPRESSED OPINION TO HIM THAT AMERICA WAS ONLY HOPE FOR ACHIEVING PEACE IN AREA AND HE PERSONALLY AGREED. I REPLIED I HAD ALSO BEEN TOLD THE SAME BY SEVERAL ARAB AMBASSADORS/CHARGES (SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT AND LIBYA) AND I WOULD REPEAT TO HIM WHAT I HAD SAID TO THEM, NAMELY, WE ARE DOING ALL IN OUR POWER TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT, BUT ULTIMATE DECISIONS REST WITH THE CAMBATANTS. WE CANNOT IMPOSE PEACE. SALIFOU (AS WELL AS THE AMBASSADORS) REMAINED SKEPTICAL REGARDING MY CLAIMS THAT USG NOT OMNIPOTENT IN THIS REGARD. BUCHE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, ARMISTICE, PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973NIAEMEY03363  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NIAEMEY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731147/aaaabidx.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. STATE 209574; B. NIAEMEY 3330, C., NIAEMEY 3116  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NIGER AND MIDDLE EAST  
**TAGS:** PFOR, NG, XF, US, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005